

We Claim:

1. A MacPherson strut for a Mac Pherson wheel suspension, comprising a shock absorber with a body (1, 11, 21) and a rod (2, 12, 22); said rod (2, 12, 22) being surrounded by a coil spring (4, 14, 24); said coil spring (4, 14, 24) being mounted between a lower spring retainer (3, 13, 23) non-pivotally secured to the shock absorber body (1, 11, 21) and an upper spring retainer through which the shock absorber rod passes; wherein said Mac Pherson strut comprises means capable of immobilizing a first turn of the spring (4, 14, 24) on and with respect to the lower spring retainer (3, 13, 23) in various predetermined positions on the lower spring retainer (3, 13, 23).

2. The strut according to claim 1, wherein the coil spring (4, 14, 24) has one end (4c, 14c, 24c) extending transversely to a direction (T) of translation defined by the various predetermined positions and has a part (4b, 14b, 24b) which is roughly straight and parallel to the direction of translation.

3. The strut according to claim 2, wherein said one end (4c, 14c) of said spring (4, 14) extending transversely to the direction (T) of translation has an indexing configuration (5, 15).

4. The strut according to claim 3, wherein said indexing configuration involves at least one orifice (5) through which a mechanical means (6) of connection to the lower spring retainer (3) can pass.

5. The strut according to claim 3, wherein said indexing configuration involves at least one curved end (15) which can be inserted in an indexing orifice (16 to 18) chosen from a number of orifices (16 to 18) made in the lower spring retainer (13).

6. The strut according to claim 1 wherein said end (24c) of the spring (24) extending transversely to the direction (T) of translation can be secured to the lower spring retainer (23) by a means (25) at least partially surrounding said end (24c).

7. The strut according to claim 6, wherein said means (25) at least partially surrounding said end (24c) of the spring (24) is configured as a collar or curved tab.

8. The strut according to claim 7, wherein said collar or curved-tab configuration (25) has an end for fixing, by a mechanical coupling means (26), to said lower spring retainer (23).

9. The strut according to claim 4, wherein the mechanical means (26) of coupling to the lower spring retainer (23) is a replaceable means of the screw, pin, bolt or similar type.

10. The strut according to claim 2, characterized in that said straight part (4b, 14b, 24b) parallel to the direction (T) of translation is parallel to the direction of forward travel of a vehicle for which the strut is intended.